

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
 October 20, 2023

Contact:  
 Mathew Barewicz, E & LMI Director, Department of Labor  
 802-828-4153 | [mathew.barewicz@vermont.gov](mailto:mathew.barewicz@vermont.gov)

## Vermont's Unemployment Rate Rose to 1.9 Percent in September

Today, the Vermont Department of Labor released data on the Vermont economy for the time period covering September 2023. According to household data, the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for September was 1.9 percent. This reflects an increase of one-tenth of one percentage point from the prior month's revised estimate. The civilian labor force participation rate was 64.1 percent in September, an increase of one-tenth of one percentage point from the prior month's revised estimate.

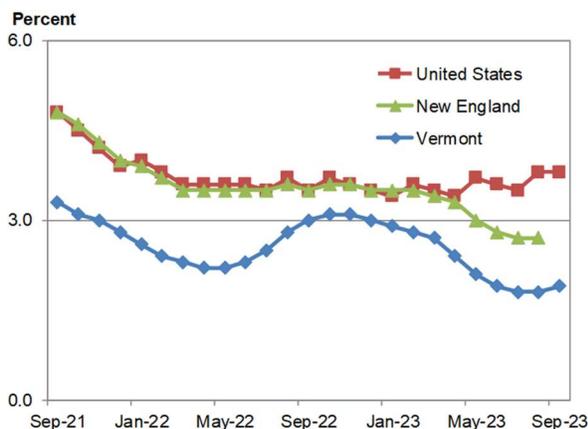
### Commissioner's Message

"After a summer of statistical volatility, the monthly numbers in September present greater stability, with many estimates showing minor changes. Overall, tight labor market conditions persist for many businesses in Vermont. Throughout October, the Department celebrates National Manufacturing Month and the numerous rewarding careers available, along with apprenticeships and on-the-job training opportunities. Manufacturers are some of Vermont's most significant employers, offering diverse career paths from production to design. Manufacturing is a vital industry with a history of economic advancement. If you want to learn more about Manufacturing Month, you can visit the Department's website <https://labor.vermont.gov/vermont-manu>.

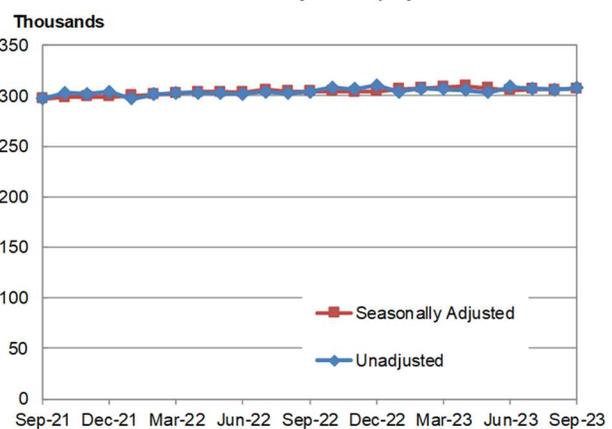
Additionally, the Department of Labor will be celebrating the 9th Annual National Apprenticeship Week November 13th-19th. Registered Apprenticeships are an industry-driven, high-quality career pathway that allows individuals the ability to earn a nationally recognized credential through paid work experience and classroom instruction. For more information on Vermont's Registered Apprenticeship Program, visit <https://labor.vermont.gov/workforce-development/apprenticeship>."

- Michael Harrington, Commissioner

**Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted**



**Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment**



## *State of Vermont Overview*

The Vermont seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate increased to 1.9 percent in September. The comparable United States rate in September was 3.8 percent, no change from the revised August estimate. The seasonally-adjusted Vermont data for September show the Vermont civilian labor force increased by 547 from the prior month's revised estimate (see Table 1). The number of employed persons increased by 349 and the number of unemployed persons increased by 198. No changes were statistically significant in the seasonally-adjusted series.

The September unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 1.8 percent in Burlington-South Burlington and White River Junction to 2.8 percent in Derby (note: local labor market area unemployment rates are not seasonally-adjusted – see Table 2). For comparison, the September unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 2.0 percent, a decrease of two-tenths of one percentage point from the revised unadjusted August level and a decrease of seven-tenths of one percentage point from a year ago.

## *Analysis of Job Changes by Industry*

### **Seasonally-Adjusted** (Table 3)

The seasonally-adjusted data for September reported an increase of 900 jobs from the revised August data. There was an increase of 200 jobs between the preliminary and the revised August estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The seasonally-adjusted over-the-month changes in September were varied at the industry level. Those with a notable increase included: Accommodation & Food Services (+700 jobs or +2.4%) and Other Services (+200 jobs or +2.1%). Industries with a notable decrease included: Professional & Technical Services (-300 jobs or -1.8%) and Administrative & Waste Services (-200 jobs or -1.4%).

### **Not-Seasonally-Adjusted** (Table 4)

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for September showed an increase of 1,800 jobs when compared to the revised August numbers. As with the seasonally-adjusted data, this over-the-month change is from the revised August numbers which experienced a decrease of 100 jobs from the preliminary estimates. The broader economic picture can be seen by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary not-seasonally-adjusted September data, Total Private industries increased by 1,300 jobs (+0.5%) over the year and Government (including public education) employment increased by 2,300 jobs (+4.2%) in the past year.

---

**The Unemployment and Jobs Report for October is scheduled to be released on Friday, November 17th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**



**Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted**

	September 2023	August 2023	September 2022	Change From:	
				August 2023	September 2022
Civilian Labor Force	348,849	348,302	342,661	547	6,188
Employed	342,244	341,895	332,538	349	9,706
Unemployed	6,605	6,407	10,123	198	-3,518
Unemployment Rate (%)	1.9	1.8	3.0	0.1	-1.1

Vermont's labor force, employment and unemployment statistics are produced from a combination of a Statewide survey of households and statistical modeling. The data are produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), a cooperative program with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov/lau](http://www.bls.gov/lau)) and the Vermont Department of Labor ([www.vtmi.info/laus.cfm](http://www.vtmi.info/laus.cfm)).

**Table 2. Vermont Labor Market Areas, Labor Force Estimates**  
not seasonally adjusted

Labor Market Area <sup>1</sup>	September 2023			Unemployment Rate <sup>2</sup> (%)		
	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Sep-23	Aug-23	Sep-22
Vermont Total	347,672	340,566	7,106	2.0	2.2	2.7
Barre-Montpelier	25,974	25,422	552	2.1	2.6	2.4
Bennington	11,026	10,743	283	2.6	2.9	3.6
Brattleboro	20,897	20,383	514	2.5	2.6	3.0
Burlington-South Burlington	129,142	126,818	2,324	1.8	1.8	2.4
Derby	12,817	12,458	359	2.8	3.1	3.9
Highgate	10,210	10,007	203	2.0	2.2	2.7
Manchester	11,394	11,136	258	2.3	2.3	3.2
Middlebury	18,901	18,550	351	1.9	2.1	2.8
Morristown-Waterbury	18,156	17,763	393	2.2	2.2	3.2
Newbury	2,746	2,687	59	2.1	2.5	2.7
Northfield-Waitsfield	7,145	6,995	150	2.1	2.4	2.7
Randolph	7,305	7,163	142	1.9	1.9	2.5
Rutland	19,941	19,480	461	2.3	2.5	3.5
Springfield	10,539	10,287	252	2.4	2.5	2.8
St. Johnsbury	14,009	13,715	294	2.1	2.5	3.2
White River Junction	20,281	19,918	363	1.8	1.8	2.2
Woodstock	3,975	3,898	77	1.9	2.0	2.7

<sup>1</sup>The area names above are common language titles; for official names of areas including encompassing cities and towns please refer to the Vermont Labor Market Area map (<http://www.vtmi.info/lmadef2015.pdf>).

<sup>2</sup>Rate is an estimate for number of unemployed divided by total labor force, expressed as a percent.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produced by the Vermont Department of Labor ([www.vtmi.info/laus.cfm](http://www.vtmi.info/laus.cfm)) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov/lau](http://www.bls.gov/lau)).



**Table 3. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, seasonally adjusted (thousands)**

NAICS Industry	Sep-23	Aug-23	Sep-22	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Aug-23	Sep-22	Aug-23	Sep-22
<b>Statewide, Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>307.1</b>	<b>306.2</b>	<b>304.5</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>251.0</b>	<b>250.2</b>	<b>250.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Mining, Logging and Construction	16.3	16.1	16.3	0.2	0.0	1.2	0.0
Mining & Logging	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-22.2
Construction	15.6	15.4	15.4	0.2	0.2	1.3	1.3
Manufacturing	28.1	28.1	29.2	0.0	-1.1	0.0	-3.8
Durable Goods	16.9	16.9	17.7	0.0	-0.8	0.0	-4.5
Non-Durable Goods	11.2	11.2	11.5	0.0	-0.3	0.0	-2.6
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	52.1	52.3	51.6	-0.2	0.5	-0.4	1.0
Wholesale Trade	8.4	8.4	8.8	0.0	-0.4	0.0	-4.5
Retail Trade	35.2	35.4	35.0	-0.2	0.2	-0.6	0.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8.5	8.5	7.8	0.0	0.7	0.0	9.0
Information	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	12.1	12.1	12.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.8
Finance & Insurance	9.0	9.0	8.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	2.3
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-3.1
Professional and Business Services	32.0	32.4	32.0	-0.4	0.0	-1.2	0.0
Professional & Technical Services	16.4	16.7	17.2	-0.3	-0.8	-1.8	-4.7
Administrative & Waste Services	13.7	13.9	12.9	-0.2	0.8	-1.4	6.2
Education and Health Services	61.6	61.3	62.1	0.3	-0.5	0.5	-0.8
Private Educational Services	12.2	12.1	12.8	0.1	-0.6	0.8	-4.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	49.4	49.2	49.3	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2
Leisure and Hospitality	34.6	33.9	32.6	0.7	2.0	2.1	6.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4.5	4.5	4.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	12.5
Accommodation & Food Services	30.1	29.4	28.6	0.7	1.5	2.4	5.2
Other Services	9.7	9.5	9.9	0.2	-0.2	2.1	-2.0
<b>Government</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Federal	6.9	6.8	6.8	0.1	0.1	1.5	1.5
State	19.0	18.9	17.7	0.1	1.3	0.5	7.3
Local	30.2	30.3	29.8	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	1.3
<b>Burlington-S. Burlington Metro (NECTA)</b>							
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>124.3</b>	<b>124.5</b>	<b>122.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor ([www.vtmi.info/ces.cfm](http://www.vtmi.info/ces.cfm)) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov/sae](http://www.bls.gov/sae)).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.



**Table 4. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, not seasonally adjusted**

NAICS Industry	Sep-23	Aug-23	Sep-22	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Aug-23	Sep-22	Aug-23	Sep-22
<b>TOTAL NONFARM</b>	<b>307,700</b>	<b>305,900</b>	<b>304,100</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>251,000</b>	<b>254,000</b>	<b>249,700</b>	<b>-3,000</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>45,600</b>	<b>45,700</b>	<b>46,100</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
MINING, LOGGING AND CONSTRUCTION	17,400	17,400	17,000	0	400	0.0	2.4
Mining & Logging	800	800	900	0	-100	0.0	-11.1
Construction	16,600	16,600	16,100	0	500	0.0	3.1
MANUFACTURING	28,200	28,300	29,100	-100	-900	-0.4	-3.1
Durable Goods	16,900	16,900	17,600	0	-700	0.0	-4.0
Non-Durable Goods	11,300	11,400	11,500	-100	-200	-0.9	-1.7
Food Mfg.	5,200	5,300	5,200	-100	0	-1.9	0.0
<b>SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>262,100</b>	<b>260,200</b>	<b>258,000</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	51,300	52,300	51,000	-1,000	300	-1.9	0.6
Wholesale Trade	8,300	8,400	8,800	-100	-500	-1.2	-5.7
Retail Trade	34,600	35,500	34,400	-900	200	-2.5	0.6
Food & Beverage Retailers	9,500	9,700	9,400	-200	100	-2.1	1.1
General Merchandise Retailers	3,600	3,600	3,400	0	200	0.0	5.9
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	8,400	8,400	7,800	0	600	0.0	7.7
Transportation & Warehousing	7,100	7,100	6,600	0	500	0.0	7.6
Utilities	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100	0.0	8.3
INFORMATION	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0	0.0	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	12,100	12,200	12,000	-100	100	-0.8	0.8
Finance & Insurance	8,900	9,000	8,800	-100	100	-1.1	1.1
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	0	0.0	0.0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	32,000	32,800	32,200	-800	-200	-2.4	-0.6
Professional & Technical Services	16,300	16,700	17,000	-400	-700	-2.4	-4.1
Administrative & Waste Services	13,900	14,200	13,100	-300	800	-2.1	6.1
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	61,600	59,900	61,700	1,700	-100	2.8	-0.2
Private Educational Services	12,200	10,900	12,500	1,300	-300	11.9	-2.4
Colleges and Universities	7,100	5,900	7,400	1,200	-300	20.3	-4.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	49,400	49,000	49,200	400	200	0.8	0.4
Ambulatory Health Care Services	16,600	16,400	16,800	200	-200	1.2	-1.2
Hospitals	14,000	14,000	13,800	0	200	0.0	1.4
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0	0.0	0.0
Social Assistance	12,800	12,600	12,600	200	200	1.6	1.6
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	34,300	36,900	32,300	-2,600	2,000	-7.0	6.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4,900	5,300	4,400	-400	500	-7.5	11.4
Accommodation & Food Services	29,400	31,600	27,900	-2,200	1,500	-7.0	5.4
Accommodation	9,300	10,200	9,000	-900	300	-8.8	3.3
Hotels & Motels	7,500	8,000	7,500	-500	0	-6.3	0.0
Food Services & Drinking Places	20,100	21,400	18,900	-1,300	1,200	-6.1	6.3
OTHER SERVICES	9,600	9,700	9,900	-100	-300	-1.0	-3.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>56,700</b>	<b>51,900</b>	<b>54,400</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Federal Government	6,900	6,800	6,800	100	100	1.5	1.5
State Government Education	9,700	7,400	8,900	2,300	800	31.1	9.0
Other State Government	9,700	9,900	9,400	-200	300	-2.0	3.2
Local Government Education	22,600	19,100	21,800	3,500	800	18.3	3.7
Other Local Government	7,800	8,700	7,500	-900	300	-10.3	4.0

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor ([www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm](http://www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm)) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov/sae](http://www.bls.gov/sae)).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.

